1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 OVERVIEW

Ministers Island is located in Passamaquoddy Bay in the south-west corner of New Brunswick and falls under the jurisdiction of the local service district of Chamcook. It is connected to the mainland by a natural bar, covered at high tide and exposed at low tide. It covers some 500 acres all of which is owned by the Province of New Brunswick. Incorporated within the designated place, but considered separately, is the prehistoric shell midden site. Ministers Island was the summer estate of Sir William Van Horne. It was designated a national historic site in 1996. The designated place is the whole island. Much of the information in this document was extracted from the HSMBC Agenda Paper 1996-20, by Leslie Maitland, Sir William Van Horne Estate, Ministers Island, New Brunswick.

1.2 NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Government of Canada for the national historic sites program are:

- to foster knowledge and appreciation of Canada's past through a national program of historical commemoration.
- to ensure the commemorative integrity of national historic sites by protecting and presenting them for the benefit, education and enjoyment of this and future generations, in a manner that respects the significant and irreplaceable legacy. represented by these places and their associated resources.
- to encourage and support owners of national historic sites in their efforts to ensure commemorative integrity.

1.3 COMMEMORATIVE INTEGRITY

1.3.1 Definition of Commemorative Integrity

Commemorative Integrity describes the health and wholeness of a national historic site. A national historic site possesses commemorative integrity when:

- the resources directly related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site are not impaired or under threat;
- the reasons for designation as a national historic site are effectively communicated to the public; and
- the site's heritage values (including those not related to designation as a national historic site) are respected in all decisions and actions affecting the site.

Resources directly related to the reasons for the site's designation are level 1 resources as defined in Parks Canada's Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Policy. Resources that are not related to the reasons for the site's designation but which have historic value are defined as level 2 in the CRM Policy.

1.3.2 Definition and Purpose of Commemorative Integrity Statement

A Commemorative Integrity Statement is a document which identifies what is meant by commemorative integrity at a particular national historic site. It provides the baseline for planning, managing, operating, reporting and taking remedial action.

1.3.3 Uses of the Commemorative Integrity Statement

A Commemorative Integrity Statement (CIS) guides site management by:

- identifying what is most important about a site relative to the national historic designation and, for Parks Canada sites, ensuring that matters relating to national significance, including resources or messages, are the highest management priority;
- ensuring that there is a focus on the "whole", and not just the individual resources;

- providing the fundamental document to guide management planning and preparation of a conservation and presentation report (for the National Historic Sites of Canada Cost-Sharing Program), which details specific actions to be carried out;
- enunciating a set of heritage values and objectives which can be used in analysing and evaluating the impact of development and adaptive re-use proposals on a site or nearby property;
- providing the basis for design guidelines for development which may take place within or nearby and which may have an impact on the national historic site;
- giving direction on heritage messages for marketing plans and programs.

1.4 CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (CRM) POLICY

Cultural resource management policy is an integrated and holistic approach to the management of cultural resources. It applies to all activities that affect cultural resources, including the care taken of those resources and the promotion of public understanding and enjoyment of them. The objective is to manage cultural resources in accordance with the principles of value, public benefit, understanding, respect and integrity.

Parks Canada's CRM Policy defines cultural resources as places or human works that have been determined to have historic value. Cultural resources include those directly related to the reasons for the site's national significance and those not related but which possess historic value.

The Policy is the basis for management of cultural resources by Parks Canada. Other owners of national historic sites are encouraged to apply the principles and practice from the CRM Policy.

Effective cultural resource management practice is based on:

- an up-to-date inventory of resources;
- an evaluation of resources to determine which are to be considered as cultural resources and what it is that constitutes their historic value;
- consideration of historic value in actions affecting conservation and presentation. Most, if not all, operational activities have an impact on conservation and presentation;
- monitoring and review to ensure that conservation and presentation objectives continue to be met effectively.

A CIS sets out the results of the first two points above in order to facilitate the third and fourth.

The objectives of a CIS specify that the site should be managed in accordance with the principles and practice of the CRM Policy. In addition to the principles and practice, management under the CRM Policy means:

- cultural resources and their values are inventoried and evaluated, and these records are kept up to date;
- there are no uses or threats that reduce the potential for long-term conservation and future understanding and appreciation of the cultural resources;
- any modification to the site or its cultural resources is based on sound knowledge and respect of the historic values of the resources and is preceded by adequate research, recording, and investigation;
- conservation measures are based on direct, rather than indirect evidence, follow the path of least intrusive action, and are clearly recorded;
- any new work at or adjacent to the site is sensitive in form and scale to the site and its associated
 resources; monitoring and review systems are in place to ensure the continued survival of the cultural
 resources with minimum deterioration;
- reproductions and reconstructions are marked in such way as not to be confused with the originals they are intended to represent;
- the historic value of the resources is fully considered and integrated into the planning, conservation presentation and operational programs.

2 DESIGNATION AND CONTEXT

2.1 DESIGNATION

Designation refers to the establishment of a national historic site. It occurs when the Minister approves a recommendation for national historic significance from the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Ministers Island was designated a cultural landscape of national historic significance in June 1996. (See section 6.1 for Board Minutes and Plaque Text.)

2.2 COMMEMORATIVE INTENT

2.2.1 Definition of Commemorative Intent

Commemorative Intent refers to the reasons for designation for a site's designation as a national historic site, as determined by the Ministerially-approved recommendations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada to the Minister. A CIS contains a Statement of Commemorative Intent (SoCI) which provides the answer to the questions "When and for what reason was this site designated by the Minister responsible for the Historic Sites and Monuments Act as a national historic site?

2.2.2 Statement of Commemorative Intent for Ministers Island National Historic Site of Canada

The Statement of Commemorative Intent articulates the intent of the designation as a national historic site and is based on the recommendations and deliberations of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada. Ministers Island was designated a national historic site in 1996. The reasons for designation, as derived from the 1996 HSMBC Minutes, are:

- as a summer estate it is a remarkable regional landscape and it served as an inspiration to Van Horne, a
 giant of Canadian history, and allowed him to pursue his interests in, and involvement with, tourism,
 agriculture, and landscape painting;
- the estate consists of a handsome collection of Shingle Style buildings set into a landscape with four zones of usage gardens, recreational facilities, agricultural lands, and forest;
- while its design is rooted in the late-19th century British and American landscape traditions, its adaptation to its locale ties it indelibly to the sea, and the farms, fields and forests of Atlantic Canada.

2.3 DESIGNATED PLACE

2.3.1 Definition of Designated Place

Designated place refers to the place designated by the Minister of the Environment on the recommendation of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada (HSMBC). Information on what constitutes the designated place for a particular historic site is drawn from the minutes of the HSMBC.

2.3.2 Description of Designated Place

The Designated Place for Ministers Island NHSC is the entire Van Horne Estate, which is to say the entire island.

2.4 HISTORIC CONTEXT

Acquired in 1890, Ministers Island is the summer estate of Sir William Van Horne (1843-1915), and as such the property is associated with a giant of Canadian history. As a summer estate with a component gentleman's farm, Ministers Island is a statement of Van Horne's vision of both agriculture and tourism as important elements of the burgeoning Canadian economy. The builder of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a businessman and an entrepreneur of breathtaking ability, Sir William Cornelius Van Horne, was also an artistic and imaginative visionary. While his work anchored him to the CPR corporate offices in Montreal, his vision of the potential of this country was played out at this summer home. It was here that the man whose railway sustained the agricultural exploitation of the West created a private farm which has survived nearly intact to this day. The vision that the adopted Canadian

had of his new homeland, nurtured in this summer setting, was expository of his continent-spanning accomplishments.

Covenhoven (the name of the main house on the property; it means cloven hoof in Dutch) and the key accompanying buildings are designed in an elegant yet relaxed version of the Shingle Style, popular for summer resort architecture at the turn of the century. Aside from the main cottage there is a garage, stables, windmill, gas plant, bathhouse, barn, dairy, boarding house, gardener's cottage and the remains of a greenhouse. The key elements of this assemblage have a harmonious design, and are the work of one of Canada's foremost architects at the turn of the century, Edward Maxwell. An older, 18th century house was sympathetically incorporated into the whole

Integral with the purpose, siting and value of this collection of buildings is the landscape, in which they are situated. The 500 acre island is a discretely defined landscape, having four interconnected zones of usage: the lawns and gardens around the main cottage; the agricultural lands north of the main cottage; the recreational lands comprising the beaches, tennis court, croquet lawn, paths and carriage roads; and the forest. The buildings, together with the landscape, make the whole Ministers Island a seasonal estate and private farm of remarkable cultural value.

After Sir William's death in 1915, Ministers Island was used by Lady Van Horne until her death in 1929 and was the more or less permanent home of their daughter Adeline until her death in 1941. It was managed for the estate until 1961 when it was sold as a private resort. It was resold in 1972 and again in 1977 at which time the furnishings, intact until then, were auctioned off. It became in that year a provincial historic site and was acquired by the Province of New Brunswick in 1982.

3 RESOURCES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

3.1 DEFINITION

Resources directly related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site include:

- the Designated Place.
- *in situ* cultural resources within the administered place that have direct relationship with the reasons for designation. In rare cases, the HSMBC has specifically identified resources which relate to or have national significance, in which case, these are the only in situ cultural resources recorded in this section.
- cultural resources identified in the HSMBC minutes as contributing to the Designated Place including resources which may be outside the Designated Place.
- objects which have a direct relationship to the commemorative intent and to the site. These may be located either within or outside the Designated Place.

3.1.1 Designated Place

The Designated Place for Ministers Island NHSC is the entire Van Horne Estate, which is to say the entire island.

3.1.2 Historic Values for Designated Place

Historic value is a value or values assigned to a resource, whereby it is recognized as a cultural resource. These values can be physical and/or associative.

The designated place for Ministers Island NHSC is valued because:

- it is a remarkable Atlantic regional landscape such that it first attracted, and then inspired Sir William Van Horne, a figure of national importance and gave him scope to pursue his interests in and involvement with tourism, agriculture and landscape painting.
- the Ministers Island summer estate was moulded into four zones of usage gardens, recreational facilities, agricultural lands, and forest - the whole focused on a handsome collection of Shingle Style buildings.

• the design of the estate is rooted in late-19th century British and American landscape traditions thoughtfully adapted to its Atlantic Canada locale of sea, farms and forest.

3.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

3.2.1 Description of Archeological Site

No archaeological work has been done to inventory potential archaeological sites on the estate. The remains of support buildings (such as the laundry, some staff cottages and an extension to the barn) demolished in the 1970's and those of a wharf, because their location is known, are considered to be level 1. The location of some of the past flowerbeds, some of the recreational facilities, and some of the landscape ephemera (the bentwood archway, for instance) is unknown. Should they be discovered, they would be deemed level 1 as well.

3.3 LANDSCAPE AND LANDSCAPE FEATURES

3.3.1 Landscape and Landscape Features

The resources which relate directly to the national significance of Ministers Island are those which reflect the impact of Sir William Van Horne and the Island upon each other and the landscape which evolved from that interaction; those which illustrate the manner in which the landscape was modified, or stabilized, to provide the four zones of usage; and those which provide evidence of both the impact of landscape design of the period upon the island, and the degree to which those design principles were modified to adapt to its Atlantic Canada locale.

The garden zone is principally in the south end of the island near the main house. The surviving physical resources and their values include lawns and paths, some plantings, and the traces of former flowerbeds, cutting and vegetable gardens.

The recreational zone is mainly located near the house, with other elements scattered across the island; these surviving resources and values include the location and shape of the tidal pool, location and imprint of the tennis courts, and the location and arrangement of the carriage roads. The elaborate system of carriage roads linked the house to the rest of the island and tied together the farming components. Much of this system was lined with rubble stone walls pierced here and there with pillared gateways.

The agricultural zone is principally in the center of the island, and focused around the barn, dairy, and farmer's cottage (Minister's house), and their physical values include open fields, fences, barnyard and utility areas around the barn and dairy similar to agricultural lands throughout Atlantic Canada.

The forest zones are in the northern part of the island and around the periphery, and they are valued as stands of second growth mixed deciduous and coniferous, typical of Atlantic Canada.

Views from the sea and the countryside on the mainland; views across open lawns and fields of the forests, and the buildings in their setting; and views from the main buildings – especially from the house and the bathhouse – of the setting and the rest of the estate contribute to making Ministers Island a remarkable landscape.

3.3.2 Historic Value of Landscape and Landscape Features

- As a summer estate, Ministers Island is a remarkable regional landscape.
- The whole concept inspired and is a reflection of the personality and abilities of its creator, Sir William Van Horne, himself an individual of national significance.
- The carefully modified landscape of Ministers Island is a concrete survival of late nineteenth century British and American concepts of landscape design, creating within its defined borders four distinct but integrated zones of usage—garden, recreation, agriculture and forest. This zoned approach to landscape and estate management is valued for its reflection of British and American landscape traditions, adapted to the conditions of Atlantic Canada.
- The modifications to the Island to create the estate adapt to, rather than dominate the Atlantic Coast environment, thereby reflecting the best principles of contemporary landscape design.

3.4 BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

3.4.1 Buildings and Structures

The focus of the Island was and is the house known as Covenhoven, large, rambling, comfortable, and, for the time, informal in its layout. Generally speaking it is a modified Queen Anne style building favoured for the summer homes of the well-to-do along the eastern seaboard. Characteristic of these buildings it makes much use of picturesque historical styles and of natural materials, such as the red sandstone quarried on site, so that, while not exactly self effacing, it hunkers down into the landscape and makes no attempt to dominate its environment. In the immediate vicinity of the main house, and all carefully designed to fit in stylistically, are the Carriage House, Motor Car Garage, Pump House, and Gas Plant. At a somewhat further remove are the Greenhouse, Gardener's Cottage and the Bathhouse.

The Carriage House (1890-95) incorporates stables for the horses, a "garage" for one or two carriages, and above, an apartment for a senior member of the staff; the Motor Car Garage was built in the 1920s when the triumph of the automobile was evident to even the most reluctant.

The Pump House and the Gas Plant are, to modern eyes the most interesting of the group for they still contain all that was necessary to supply a large summer home with its own water and light. The first, built over an artesian well, is a stylized Dutch windmill but with a (then) modern multi-vaned windmill (presently in storage) on top in place of the traditional giant sails. It includes a pumping engine powered by either wind or a Fairbanks-Morse kerosene fueled diesel engine of sufficient size that a smaller engine is paired with it to provide the necessary power to start it. Next to the Pump House, but underground, is a massive concrete cistern for storing water. The Gas Plant, perhaps the most interesting from a technological point of view, contains gas generating apparatus following the patents of Thomas L. (Carbide) Willson. As developed by Willson in 1892, the plant produced acetylene gas for illuminating purposes by dropping calcium carbide pellets into water at a controlled rate. The somewhat more distant Bathhouse, whose top floor rotunda also served Van Horne as a painting studio, is a round tower built of native sandstone and is clearly designed as much for picturesque effect as for practical functionality. It is located on the most southern tip of the Island, provides a focal point in the foreground for views from the house and, for those using the swimming pool cleverly quarried out of the shelving rock of the beach below, it towers impressively and protectively over bathers.

Even more distant, but still within sight of the main house over what were the cutting and vegetable gardens, is the Gardener's Cottage (by 1894) and Greenhouse (1908). Although more utilitarian in design than the other outbuildings, the Cottage itself is little altered. It was a year-round residence for the head gardener. The Greenhouse faces south and part of it is built into a hillside so that the heavy stone north retaining wall can absorb solar heat and act as a radiator at night. Its elaborate heating plant is intact, but most of the glass has fallen out of the lightly built frames.

At the head of the bar stands the original stone house of Rev. Mr. Andrews, in itself a handsome example of Loyalist domestic architecture. Van Horne had the interior modified so as to provide a residence for the manager of what was for him probably his favourite hobby, the farm. True to his Dutch roots the hard-nosed engineer, contractor, executive and businessman took immense pleasure in breeding and raising prize cattle and sheep and the immense barn he built to house them is a monument to his energetic pursuit of perfection. The Barn itself, reflecting the importance he assigned to this particular interest, is, aside from its size, provided with enough architectural detail to produce a striking visual impact. Its function was not disguised; rather, the two silos were capped with conical roofs that turned them into renaissance turrets and when built it was clad with patterns of shingles, since replaced with less textured plywood and sheet metal. The interior contains state-of-the-art stalls for horses, both draft and carriage, prize winning Dutch belted cattle, as well as sheep. The vast and impressive hayloft is a symphony of wooden truss work worthy of a mediaeval abbey, its topmost beams almost invisible in the atmospheric gloom. This striking space is reached either by an insignificant ladder or an ingenious elevator which travels between all three floors and operates by counterweights like a dumb waiter.

Since disappeared was some staff housing and a one story westward extension of the Barn which contained the poultry houses. A handsome mansard roofed Boarding house (1899) for seasonal employees does survive.

On a much smaller scale than the barn, but impressive in its granite solidity, is the Dairy, crowned by a shingled tower in a style similar to the Pump House or Gas Plant. This tower held the water so essential for cooling in the days before mechanical refrigeration. Initial processing of the milk was carried out in a tiled and whitewashed room next the stalls for the milk cows in the main barn, then transferred here for final processing as milk, cream, butter or cheese.

3.4.2 Historic Value of Buildings and Structures

- The Shingle Style buildings, virtually intact, not just individually, but in their relationship to each other
 are handsome examples of that style of architecture as adapted by summer colonies on the east coast or
 North America.
- The overall consistency of design creates a striking visual unity, while internal plans and finishes vary according to the differing functions of the structures.
- The buildings and structures are valued for their volume, mass, construction materials, finishing materials, elevations, floor plans, interior finishes and disposition of spaces, as well as equipment and machinery, which speak to the architectural style and to the uses of these buildings.

3.5 OBJECTS

The collection consists of 1,551 objects. All are original to the Van Horne Estate. Some of the objects can be found on site, while the rest of the collection is located in Fredericton at the storage facility of the Secretariat for Culture and Sport.

The collection contains a variety of objects including paintings, drawings, furniture, model cars, lawn bowling and croquet set elements, fire place implements, dishes, photographs, prize ribbons, journals, books.

3.5.1 Historic Values for Objects

The historic objects are valued because:

- they connect directly, by means of function, uniqueness, or association with an historic individual and/or the commemorative intent of the estate on Ministers Island.
- the integrity of the relationship of the resources to the main house, Covenhoven.

3.6 OBJECTIVES

The resources (Designated Place of Ministers Island National Historic Site of Canada, Landscape and landscape features, buildings and structures, archaeological site, and objects) will not be impaired or under threat when:

- the resources and their associated values are respected.
- management decisions are based on adequate and sound information and are made in accordance with the principles and practice of Parks Canada's CRM Policy.
- the resources and their associated values are not lost or impaired from natural processes, for example erosion and decay, within or outside of the site;
- the resources and their associated values are not lost, impaired or threatened from human actions within or outside of the site.
- the historic values of the resources are communicated to visitors and stakeholders.

4 EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION OF THE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

4.1 REASONS FOR DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

4.1.1 Definition

The reasons for designation express, in the form of messages, why Ministers Island was designated a national historic site. The reasons for designation are derived from the Statement of Commemorative Intent.

4.1.2 Reasons for designation

The reasons for designation for Ministers Island NHSC are:

- as a summer estate it is a remarkable regional landscape and it served as an inspiration to Van Horne, a
 giant of Canadian history, and allowed him to pursue his interests in, and involvement with, tourism,
 agriculture, and landscape painting;
- the estate consists of a handsome collection of Shingle Style buildings set into a landscape with four zones of usage—gardens, recreational facilities, agricultural lands, and forest;
- while its design is rooted in the late-19th British and American landscape traditions, its adaptation to its locale ties it indelibly to the sea, and the farms, fields and forests of Atlantic Canada.

4.2 CONTEXT MESSAGES

4.2.1 Definition of Context Messages

Context messages are those messages that are essential to understanding the reasons for designation of the site.

4.2.2 Context Messages

- This summer estate, built in the midst of a popular tourist destination, reflects Van Horne's support of tourism in Canada, manifest also in the chain of luxury hotels constructed by the CPR, and in the vigorous promotion of tourism effected by the CPR under Van Horne's leadership.
- The agricultural undertakings at Ministers Island, such as the model barn and dairy, and the promotion of exotic animal species (Dutch belted cattle), reflect the role played by Van Horne and the CPR in the development and ultimate success of agriculture in western Canada.
- The landscape and seascape of Ministers Island inspired Van Horne's abilities as a talented amateur painter and as a host to visiting artists, and reflected his patronage of landscape painting in Canada.
- Sir William Cornelius Van Horne is a giant of Canadian history. He was the General Manager, Vice-President and then President of the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) during its early history. A dynamic and imaginative man, he greatly contributed to the CPR success and the development of Canada. Sir William Van Horne was designated a person of national significance in 1954.
- The Shingle Style was a popular summer resort architecture during the late 19th century and early 20th century. It reflects the period's aesthetic philosophies concerning the harmonious relationships between structure and landscape. The buildings on Ministers Island are fine examples of the Shingle Style. The architecture is inextricably interwoven with its setting (landscape); the setting is a fundamental reason for the buildings existence in that locale.
- The Shingle Style, so called because of the characteristic use of wooden shingles, features rambling, irregular buildings, built of wood frame and covered with shingles or shingles in combination with wood and brick. Shingle Style buildings have bold, irregular roof lines punctuated by dormers, gables and towers; they feature decorative windows, porches and verandahs; and they have irregular floor plans designed to take advantage of views and sunlight.
- The main house, Covenhoven, and key accompanying buildings, the barn and the windmill, are the work of one of Canada's foremost architects of the period, Edward Maxwell.

- Four zones of usage: formal gardens, recreational spaces, agricultural spaces and the forest are all overlapping and complementing each other. Such zoning was typical of estate properties of that period. The relative importance of one over another was a result of the local situation and certainly, the tastes and interests of the owner.
- In the late 19th century, gardening had become a passionate pursuit of the upper crust, not only as a symbol of wealth but also of one's cultured understanding of natural beauty. The types of gardens and the hardier plant species chosen by Sir William Van Horne reflects his sensible and well informed understanding of the Maritimes' climate
- Recreational spaces such as the tennis court, the croquet lawn and, the island's interconnecting system of
 carriage roads for carriage driving and horseback riding provided the expected offering for a private
 estate. The beach and bathhouse are a local adaptation to the estate's setting on an island. The bathhouse
 also served as a studio for Sir Van Horne's favourite pastime, landscape painting.
- Farming was a significant component of Sir William Van Horne estate on Ministers Island. He was intensely interested in his farming operation, and proud of his successes. The farm on Ministers Island is a personalization of Van Horne's interest in and larger vision of the importance of agriculture to Canada's economic development.
- Forests were always integral to estate properties. They provided shelter for crops, wild game and dwellings, timber for fireplace and lumber, and the setting for carriages drives.
- The land uses at Ministers Island exhibit a sensitive adaptation of the estate formula to the Atlantic Canada context.
- Covenhoven, the house, was the focus of the system of carriage roads. These did, of course, serve to link
 together the house, the farm, and the various fields and pastures, but aside from this practical function
 they were laid out wherever possible to take full advantage of the Island's geography and scenic properties
 so that they could provide an enjoyable ride on horseback or by carriage. The self-contained nature of the
 Island, to say nothing of the possibilities for scenic views which any island offers, made this system
 possible.
- It was the mild climate and picturesque qualities of the Atlantic Canada landscape and seascape that attracted Van Horne to this setting in the first place
- Van Horne's summer estate is situated on an existing, and entirely typical, Atlantic Canadian farm, and his estate simply took advantage of the existing patterns of field, forest and ocean.

4.3 OBJECTIVES

The reasons for designation of Ministers Island as a national historic site are effectively communicated to the public when:

- the overall heritage presentation experience conveys the reasons for designation as a national historic site.
- visitors and site stewards understand the reasons for designation as a national historic site.
- management decisions are based on adequate and sound information and are made in accordance with the principles and practice of the CRM Policy.

5 RESOURCES, VALUES AND MESSAGES NOT RELATED TO THE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Some resources, values and messages are not related to the reasons for designation. This section contains information of these. It includes information on:

- resources not related to the reasons for designation (both natural and cultural), with their values and objectives.
- any other values of the site not related to the reasons for designation, with their objectives.
- messages not related to the reasons for designation, with their objectives.

5.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Ministers Island incorporates known archaeological resources separate from the period when it was developed as the Van Horne estate. The most significant is known as the Ministers Island Pre-contact Site and was designated a national historic site in 1978.

In addition to the site mentioned above, seven other sites have been identified on the island. Two are Aboriginal (pre-contact) in nature, 3 are classed as historic and one is of undetermined origin. A listing can be obtained from the Provincial Archaeological Services in Fredericton.

5.2 HISTORIC OBJECTS

5.2.1 Historic Objects

A collection of artefacts excavated from the Ministers Island Pre-contact Site (NHS) is in the custody of the National Museum of Civilization, in Gatineau, Québec.

5.2.2 Value of Historic Objects not Related to National Significance

The historic objects are valued because:

- they connect, by means of function, uniqueness, or association with an historic the commemorative intent of the Ministers Island Pre-contact site.
- the integrity of the relationship of the resources to the archaeological site.

5.3 OBJECTIVES FOR RESOURCES AND VALUES NOT RELATED TO THE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The resources not related to the reasons for the designation of Ministers Island National Historic Site of Canada will not be impaired or under threat when:

- the resources and their associated values are respected.
- management decisions are based on adequate and sound information and are made in accordance with the principles and practice of the Parks Canada's CRM Policy.
- the resources and their associated values are not lost or impaired from natural processes, for example erosion and decay, within or outside of the site.
- the resources and their associated values are not lost, impaired or threatened from human actions within or outside of the site.
- the historic values of the resources are communicated to visitors and stakeholders.
- all human remains and funerary objects and all cemeteries and burial grounds, regardless of cultural origin or affiliation, are treated with respect and dignity

5.4 Messages Not Related to the Reasons for Designation as a National Historic Site

This section contains any messages not related to reasons for designation which are to be communicated at the site. For Ministers Island National Historic Site of Canada, they are:

- Ministers Island was an important site for First Nations peoples before and after the arrival of Europeans in North America. The archeology of Ministers Island incorporates four distinct periods, the Late Archaic (2370+80 BP), the Ceramic, the pre-Loyalist and the Loyalist.
- The Late Archaic and the Ceramic periods are the objects of a separate designation under the title: Ministers Island Pre-contact Site.
- The Maxwells specialized in resort architecture for prominent Montrealers, and their work can be seen in nearby St. Andrews and in Senneville, Montreal (also a national historic site of Canada).
- The island was named after a Minister who lived there before Van Horne's purchase.
- The site is linked to other resort areas popular at this time, such as St. Andrews, New Brunswick; Senneville and Charlevoix, Québec; the Thousand Islands and the Muskokas, Ontario.

- This is one of three farms owned by Van Horne, the others being in Selkirk, Manitoba, and Cuba.
- Adeline Van Horne, daughter of Sir William, was a botanist, and contributed to scientific understanding of fungi
- Other estates designated as national historic sites of Canada include Hatley Park/Royal Roads Military College, Colwood, British Colombia; les Jardins de Métis, Québec; and Le Domaine Joly de Lotbinière, Québec.
- Ministers Island has a designation as a protected provincial historic site.
- Ministers Island NHSC is part of a system of parks and sites that span the country telling the history of Canada's development as a nation.
- Ministers Island is a product of the development of CP rail.
- Dutch heritage as an inspiration for island's architecture, cattle breed, and painting collection.

5.5 OBJECTIVES FOR MESSAGES NOT RELATED TO THE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The messages not related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site are effectively communicated to the public when:

- part of the heritage presentation experience conveys the messages not related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site.
- the messages not related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site and their presentation do not overwhelm or detract from the presentation and understanding of the site's national historic significance.
- visitors understand the messages not related to the reasons for designation as a national historic site.
- management decisions are based on adequate and sound information and are made in accordance with the principles and practice of the CRM Policy.